

Torrance, California
September 27, 1949

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber of the City Hall on Tuesday, September 27, 1949, at 8:07 p.m., Mayor Pro tem Powell presiding, in the absence of Mayor Sherfey.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those responding being: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. ABSENT: Sherfey. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Smith.

All persons present in the Chamber participated in the Flag salute.

As first order of business, minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 13th and an Adjourned Regular Meeting of September 14th were approved as read on motion of Councilman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Drale and unanimously carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were read by Clerk Bartlett:

Request of Lenore E. Ohlman for two-hour parking limit signs in front of the Christian Science Reading Room on Manuel Avenue from alley to 218th Street. Councilman Drale moved that the request be referred to the Traffic Commission for an opinion to be rendered at the next regular Council meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Recommendation of Board of Directors of Torrance Chamber of Commerce that a competent engineering authority be employed to make a survey of the present and future water needs of the City of Torrance. Councilman Powell announced that a meeting with the engineers had already been scheduled for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons of this week and asked that the communication be filed as a matter of record.

Request of Torrance Toastmasters Club to erect four road signs with a diameter of twenty-three inches, at the following locations: In the island on W. Torrance Blvd. at Crenshaw; in the island on Torrance Blvd. at Western Avenue; West Carson Street and Western Avenue and on Narbonne Avenue and 239th Street. Councilman Jackson moved that the matter be referred to City Manager Stevens for recommendation at the next regular Council meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Haggard and carried unanimously.

Communication from the Recreation Commission to City Manager Stevens, giving an itemized list of the equipment and facilities to be installed at Torrance Park, Fern Avenue Playground, WALTERIA Park, El Retiro Park and North Torrance Park, and the amount of money to be expended on each item, the total being \$21,000.00. After some discussion, Clerk Bartlett asked that clarification be made on the motion, which was as follows: Councilman Jackson moved that the communication be filed for further reference and be made a part of the study which is being conducted on the entire recreation program, subject to the finances that are available for recreation purposes in the coming year. Motion seconded by Councilman Haggard and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

Communication from Mr. John R. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer, requesting that the Wucetich Construction Company, contractors for the installation of the sanitary sewers in the WALTERIA District, be granted a thirty-day extension on their contract. Councilman Jackson moved that the extension be granted, which motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried unanimously.

Communication from the San Pedro Commercial Company, announcing the contemplated establishment of a pickup and disposal service for dead animals. Councilman Jackson moved that the communication be referred to City Manager Stevens. Motion seconded by Councilman Drale and carried unanimously.

Communication from Bay Cities Chapter of the National Alliance of Contractors and Associates, protesting action in failing to let bids to licensed contractors on the work being done on the North Torrance Fire Station. Councilman Drale moved that the communication be referred to City Manager Stevens to dispose of as he sees fit. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson and carried unanimously.

Letter of thanks to City Council from Chief of Police and all members of the Police Department stating appreciation for the granting of a five-day week for their department. Councilman Drale moved the letter be filed as a matter of record. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson and unanimously carried.

Communication from Recreation Commission, advising of the resignation of one of its members, Dave Colville. Councilman Drale moved that the City Attorney be instructed to write a letter to Mr. Colville, thanking him for his services. Motion seconded by Councilman Jackson and unanimously carried.

Communication from Recreation Commission advising of vacancy on the Commission, due to the resignation of Dave Colville. Councilman Jackson moved that the communication be filed as a matter of record and that the vacancy be filled at some future date. Motion seconded by Councilman Haggard and carried unanimously.

Recommendation of the Recreation Commission to deny request of Robert H. Lucas, in regard to the use of the Torrance Park. Councilman Drale moved that the matter again be referred to the Recreation Commission, Chief of Police and City Attorney. The motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, carried unanimously.

Recommendation of the Recreation Commission to deny request of Mr. Almond to operate a scale-model train at the Torrance Park. Councilman Drale moved that the request be denied, which motion was seconded by Councilman Jackson and carried unanimously.

Communication from the Recreation Commission recommending approval of the request from the Torrance Area Youth Band to use the Civic Auditorium on Thursday evenings and Saturday during the day and asking for information from the Council as to the status of the Torrance Area Youth Band. Councilman Jackson moved that the matter be taken up in a joint meeting of the Council and Recreation Commission to be held Monday night, October 3, 1949. The motion died for lack of a second. Councilman Jackson then moved that the request of the Torrance Area Youth Band be granted. This motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read the present schedule for reservations of the Civic Auditorium. Councilman Drale moved that a copy of this schedule be directed to the Recreation Commission and that a monthly schedule be sent them. This motion was seconded by Councilman Jackson and carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read the title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2012

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY
CLERK TO EXECUTE QUITCLAIM DEED TO KATZ AND
PINE.

This resolution had been referred to the City Attorney for his study and recommendation and since that time had been approved as to form by Attorney Smith.

APPROVED

Councilman Jackson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2012, which motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

RESOLUTION NO. 2013

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE
OF TAX DEEDED LAND FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY,
IDENTIFIED AS EAST TWENTY FEET OF LOT 9,
BLOCK 9, TRACT NO. 4070.

Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2013. This motion was seconded by Councilman Jackson and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

ORDINANCE NO. 482

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AMENDING CLASSIFICATION TITLE OF "ASSISTANT
CITY ENGINEER" AND CARRYING AN URGENCY CLAUSE.

Councilman Jackson moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 482 be dispensed with, which motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

Councilman Jackson then moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 482 for first and final reading, which motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

Clerk Bartlett read the following recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

PERSONNEL:

1. That the following personnel, having successfully passed the Civil Service examination, be appointed to serve their probationary period as Patrolmen, effective October 3, 1949, and that their compensation be at the rate of \$242.00 per month:

- a. James E. Thompson
- b. Donald Lee Miller
- c. Gustav R. Rethwisch
- d. Harvey Turrentine
- e. William M. Mitchell
- f. Robert Lewis

These men are to attend the two-week Rookie School held by the Los Angeles Police Department, before starting work locally.

2. That Earl Russell be temporarily employed as a Laborer in the Street Department, effective August 29, 1949, at a compensation of \$184.00 per month.
3. That W. C. Campbell be temporarily employed as a Custodian, effective September 27, 1949, at a compensation of \$176.00 per month.
4. That the Police Chief be authorized to attend a Peace Officers Convention in Sacramento, October 4th to 9th inclusive, with appropriate expenses paid.

Councilman Jackson moved that the Council concur with the recommendations of City Manager Stevens of Items Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 under Personnel. This motion was seconded by Councilman

Drale and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the purchase of a radio unit for North Torrance Fire Engine, the sum of \$428.50 plus tax. (Budget Item)
2. To the Chamber of Commerce for publicity and advertising for July, August and September, the sum of \$1,250.00, (Budget Item) subject to submission of report for the period.
3. To the Barclay Survey Company for survey services during the month of August, the sum of \$260.00
4. To the Lund Company for additional premiums, as a result of final audit, for Comprehensive Liability and Fire and Theft on City Fleet, for the period 7-1-48 to 7-1-49, the sum of \$367.37.
5. For the renewal of Liability Insurance for Airport, the sum of \$132.40. (From Airport Funds) This policy will be cancelled out pro rata on December 31, 1949, and rewritten for one year.
6. For the purchase of law books for the City Attorney's office, the sum of \$600.00. (Budget Item)
7. That Fire hydrants be installed at the following locations, in accordance with the recommendation of the Fire Chief:
 - a. Southeast corner of 223rd Street and Ferro Carril Avenue
 - b. On 190th Street 1600' east of Prairie Avenue.

Councilman Drale moved that the Council concur in recommendation Nos. 1 through 7, under Appropriations. This motion was seconded by Councilman Jackson and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

AWARD OF BIDS:

1. That the bid of A.P. Wright for Farming Rights on the Municipal Airport, in the amount of \$6,000.00 per year be accepted as the most favorable bid to the City and all other bids be rejected.
2. That the bid of Arnold Schleuniger for construction of the North Torrance Fire Station, in the amount of \$5,888.00, be accepted as the lowest responsible bid and all other bids be rejected.
3. That the bid of B. F. Goodrich Tire Company for tire rental for the Bus System, at the rate of \$.0087 per bus mile, be accepted.
4. That the contract for operating the Los Angeles Bus Depot by Mrs. M. Banks be extended for one year from September 21, 1949, in conformance with the option of renewal for one year specified in the contract.

Councilman Drale moved that the Council concur in recommendations Nos. 1 through 4, under Award of Bids. This motion was seconded by Councilman Jackson and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

ABSTRACT

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. That bids be invited for the purchase of 1500 feet of 2½" fire hose and 500 feet of 1½" fire hose, in accordance with the recommendation of the Fire Chief.
(Budget Item)

Councilman Jackson moved that the Council concur in the recommendation to invite bids for fire hose. This motion was seconded by Councilman Haggard and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

Clerk Bartlett read the following recommendations of the Planning Commission:

CASE NO. 175: Petition of P. E. Blocker, et al, for a Variance and Conditional Permit to permit the construction and operation of a Lumber Yard, including paint and hardware, at 24202-04-06 Hawthorne Boulevard. This property is located in a C-1 (Retail Commercial) Zone.

It was the unanimous decision of the Planning Commission to recommend denial of this Variance, because the location is not suitable for a lumber yard, due to traffic and non-conformance to the proposed zoning for that district.

Councilman Jackson moved that the Council concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission in denying the petition, due to the zoning not allowing a lumber yard in that particular area. This motion was seconded by Councilman Haggard and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

TENTATIVE TRACT MAPS NOS. 16099, 16195 and 15976: These maps were recommended for approval, subject to the receipt of a letter from the County Flood Control, approving the sites and the extension of the service road from 187th Street to 185th Street on Tracts No. 16099 and 16195.

Tract No. 16099 is located between Crenshaw Boulevard and Fern Avenue and between 186th and 190th Streets.

Tract No. 16195 is located between Crenshaw Boulevard and Fern Avenue and between 185th Street and 186th Street.

Tract No. 15976 is located on the northeast corner of Arlington Avenue and 190th Street.

A letter from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District has been received on each of the tracts, stating that the property had been investigated and it was the opinion of that department that when the lots have been graded so as to drain into the streets, it will be reasonably free from flood hazard.

Councilman Drale moved that the Council concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approve these tract maps, subject to the subdivider providing suitable playground area, as proposed by Councilman Haggard, in each of these tracts. This motion was seconded by Councilman Haggard and carried unanimously.

SPECIAL REQUESTS:

1. Request of H. K. Reynolds to extend his garage at 1956 Plaza del Amo was recommended for approval.
2. Request of Harvel Guttenfelder for permission to improve property at 1618 Cravens Avenue by building a room 17' x 39' on the front of the present structure, was recommended for approval.

Councilman Jackson moved that the Council concur with the Planning Commission's recommendation and approve Items No. 1 and 2 under Special Requests. This motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens recommended that the City Electrician be authorized to attend the Electrician's Convention at San Diego, to be held on October 10 to 13, inclusive, and that appropriate expenses be paid. Councilman Drale moved that the Council concur with the recommendation. This motion was seconded by Councilman Haggard and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None, ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

Councilman Drale called the attention of the Traffic Commission to a hazardous condition at the corner of Dominguez Street and Crenshaw Boulevard, in the form of a high board fence. Councilman Jackson moved that the matter be referred to the Traffic Commission. This motion was seconded by Councilman Haggard and carried unanimously.

Councilman Drale moved that insurance companies submit a sample copy of the hospitalization and health insurance policies to the Council and City Manager for study and consideration before any plan is adopted for the employees of the City of Torrance. This motion was seconded by Councilman Jackson and carried unanimously.

Councilman Jackson announced that the regular monthly meeting of the Traffic Commission would be held Wednesday evening, September 28, at 5:00 p.m. Two items for discussion being the intersection at 171st Street and Crenshaw Boulevard and the complaint from the WALTERIA District regarding the Southern California Freight haulage.

Mayor Protem Powell stated that he wished to go on record as commending the oil companies for their compliance with Ordinance No. 440.

Councilman Drale announced that anyone knowing of broken sidewalks in the City of Torrance should register a complaint with the City Engineer.

Mayor Protem Powell stated that for some time a member of the Recreation Commission had been active, without having been formally appointed, and at this time wanted to formally appoint J. Austin Beesley as a member of the Recreation Commission. Councilman Jackson moved that the Council concur in the appointment. This motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Rayonette Brown, 1004 Crenshaw Boulevard, reported that certain citizens were throwing grass cuttings and trash on the public streets. City Manager Stevens was requested to take the necessary steps to see that Ordinance No. 471 is complied with and report at the next meeting.

Mrs. Bessie Slonecker, 24430 Neece Avenue, asked for information as to when the street lights for an area in WALTERIA from Newton Street to 242nd Street and from Ocean Avenue to the hill, would be installed. City Manager Stevens informed her that the lights had been ordered from the Edison Company, but due to a large number of back orders, the installation had been delayed.

Mr. George Downing asked why there had been no mention of the Civil Service Convention to be held in San Francisco the latter part of next month, when authorization had been given the Police Chief and City Electrician to attend their conventions. City Manager Stevens replied that he had no information on the convention and was requested by Mayor Pro tem Powell to refer to Mr. Walter Bradford and Mr. Benstead for any information they might have.

Mr. Patronskey, 704 Calle Arboles, Hollywood Riviera, reported that there was a surplus of water standing on Calle Arboles to Via Pasqual in various spots, which was contributing to the breeding of mosquitoes. This matter was referred to the City Manager for investigation.

Mr. Lusk reported that there was a hazardous condition where the grading was being done for the new North Torrance school and made an appointment with Councilman Drale to review the site.

Mr. Jack Baldwin of the Torrance Herald reported that the El Nido community had requested approximately 200 of the Fly Abatement pamphlets, which had been left over from the distribution in Torrance. City Attorney Smith said he knew of no legal objection to granting the request and Councilman Drale moved that the pamphlets be given to El Nido. This motion was seconded by Councilman Jackson and carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett said he would like to speak as a taxpayer and commend the Fly Abatement Committee for the fine way in which they sprayed his alley, but would have appreciated another kind of perfume.

Councilman Jackson moved that all bills properly audited be paid, which motion was seconded by Councilman Drale and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson and Powell. NAYS: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Sherfey.

On motion of Councilman Drale, seconded by Councilman Jackson, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.



CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:



MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE